

## VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES (VDSS) EARLY CHILDHOOD ENDORSEMENT PROGRAM (ECEP)

In order to meet the need for highly qualified early childhood and child care providers, the Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS) has offered training on the care, development, health, and safety of young children for many years. In recognition of the increased need for more structured early childhood professional development options, the Office of Early Childhood Development, a part of the Virginia Department of Social Services, has established the Early Childhood Endorsement Program (ECEP). This program is designed to provide a comprehensive foundation of knowledge for working with children of specific ages.

The ECEP is a collaboration between the Office of Early Childhood Development, the Virginia Community College System (VCCS), and the Community College Workforce Alliance (CCWA).

The VDSS Early Childhood Endorsement Program provides two options: the Infant and Toddler Endorsement and the Preschool Endorsement. The ECEP consists of courses offered regularly by VDSS that have been enhanced with project work and assessment tools. All ECEP courses are taught by CCWA adjunct faculty.

### To Participate

Individuals who participate in the VDSS Early Childhood Endorsement Program (Infant and Toddler Endorsement or Preschool Endorsement) must:

- Register to attend component courses as outlined on page 9.
- Attend all required courses.
- Receive written and project assessments from the instructor at the end of each class (15-30 minutes).
- Complete all written and project assessments.
- Submit completed assessments for each ECEP course to VDSS for grading.
- Receive a passing score for each required course to receive the VDSS Early Childhood Endorsement.

Early childhood and child care professionals who are successful will receive the VDSS Early Childhood Endorsement and will be eligible to apply for three college credits.

### College Credit

Upon completion of either of the Early Childhood Endorsements (Infant and Toddler or Preschool), participants may choose to apply for college credit. To be eligible to apply for college credit, individuals must:

1. Keep all materials included in the program (participant handouts and texts, and all completed, graded assessments and projects) in a portfolio for future review. Information on developing and submitting a portfolio for review to receive college credit will be distributed to successful candidates with the awarding of the VDSS ECEP Certificate of Completion.
2. Achieve a grade-point-average (GPA) of 2.0/C or better on all class materials submitted for the ECEP.

Registration information and forms can be found in this catalog on pages 2 - 5 or online at: <http://www.dss.virginia.gov/redirect/?83>.

## VDSS EARLY CHILDHOOD ENDORSEMENT PROGRAM (ECEP)

### I. Infant and Toddler Endorsement (ECEP-IT)

The ECEP – IT consists of the following 12 courses. Each course will be offered once per year as outlined below:

#### Each Spring

Beyond Babble: Exploring Early Language Development (pg 12)

Child Abuse and Neglect: Recognition and Reporting (pg 14)

Health Screening for Child Care Professionals (pg 16)

Understanding Temperaments to Help Infants and Toddlers Learn and Develop (pg 19)

#### Each Fall

Part 1 - Ages and Stages of Development for Infants and Toddlers

Part 2 - Creating an Appropriate Learning Environment for Infants and Toddlers

Part 3 - Planning Activities for Infants and Toddlers

Part 4 - Guiding the Behaviors of Infants and Toddlers

Nurturing Productive Partnerships with Parents

Observation and Recording: It's Not Always Obvious

Preventing Injuries in the Child Care Environment

#### Self-Study

Early Childhood Theorists

(For registration information contact: [ecep@dss.virginia.gov](mailto:ecep@dss.virginia.gov) or (804) 726-7468.)

### II. Preschool Endorsement (ECEP-PS)

The ECEP – PS consists of the following 12 courses. Each course will be offered once per year as outlined below:

#### Each Spring

Part 1 - Ages and Stages of Development of Preschoolers Ages Three to Five (pg 12)

Part 2 - Creating an Age Appropriate Learning Environment for Preschoolers (pg 14)

Part 3 - Planning Age and Stage Appropriate Activities for Preschoolers (pg 16)

Part 4 - Guiding the Behaviors of Preschool Children Ages Three to Five (pg 15)

Child Abuse and Neglect: Recognition and Reporting (pg 14)

Health Screening for Child Care Professionals (pg 16)

#### Each Fall

Every Teacher is a Brain Surgeon - Exploring Brain Development – Part 1

Nurturing Productive Partnerships with Parents

Observation and Recording: It's Not Always Obvious

Preventing Injuries in the Child Care Environment

Reframing Discipline Part 1: From Stopping Misbehavior to Teaching Skills

#### Self-Study

Early Childhood Theorists

(For registration information contact: [ecep@dss.virginia.gov](mailto:ecep@dss.virginia.gov) or (804) 726-7468.)

#### Registration Information

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or online at: <http://www.dss.virginia.gov/redirect/?83>.

#### Additional Information

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## MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION TRAINING (MAT) PROGRAM

MAT Requirements for Licensed and Regulated Child Day Programs

### Code of Virginia

#### Drug Control Act CHAPTER 34.

#### § 54.1-3408. Professional use by practitioners.

N. In addition, this section shall not prevent the administration of drugs by a person to a child in a child day program as defined in § 63.2-100 and regulated by the State Board of Social Services or the Child Day Care Council, provided such person (i) has satisfactorily completed a training program for this purpose approved by the Board of Nursing and taught by a registered nurse, licensed practical nurse, doctor of medicine or osteopathic medicine, or pharmacist; (ii) has obtained written authorization from a parent or guardian; (iii) administers drugs only to the child identified on the prescription label in accordance with the prescriber's instructions pertaining to dosage, frequency, and manner of administration; and (iv) administers only those drugs that were dispensed from a pharmacy and maintained in the original, labeled container that would normally be administered by a parent or guardian to the child.

### Standards for Licensed Child Day Centers

The regulation for child day centers contains a standard (22 VAC 15-30-310.D) that goes beyond the requirements of the law and requires medication administration training for anyone who administers prescription AND non-prescription medications.

Child Day Programs	Medication Administration Training
Child day centers (licensed)	Training required for administration of Prescription <b>and</b> Non-Prescription medications
Family day homes (licensed)	Training required only for administration of Prescription medications
Religiously exempt child day centers (regulated)	Training required only for administration of Prescription medications
Voluntarily registered family day homes (regulated)	Training required only for administration of Prescription medications
Family day homes approved by a (licensed) Family Day System	Training required only for administration of Prescription medications
Certified preschools (regulated)	Training required only for administration of Prescription medications

### Important Information

- **Best Practice** - The Medication Administration Training for Child Day Programs teaches BEST PRACTICE and covers the administration of all medications, both prescription and non-prescription.
- **MAT Recertification** – MAT Certification is valid for three (3) years from the issue date indicated on the MAT Certificate. Providers and/or staff members must be recertified **prior** to the date the certificate expires in order to continue to administer medication to children in a child day program.
- **Two Options for Completing the MAT Course:**
  - **Classroom-based** – Providers may choose to complete the MAT course in a classroom setting with an approved MAT Trainer. Providers must attend the entire class and successfully pass the written and skills competencies. **Class size is limited to 8 participants.**
  - **Independent Study** – Providers may choose to complete the MAT course by independent study. The MAT Independent Study is made up of two parts. Part One is a self-paced, online review of the MAT course content using MAT course handouts, video segments and independent exercises. Part Two consists of hands-on practice time and testing with an *approved* MAT Trainer. Providers must successfully pass the written skills competencies. **Class size for Part Two of the MAT Independent Study is limited to 3 participants.** For more information on the MAT Independent Study go to: [https://www.dss.virginia.gov/family/cc\\_providertrain/mat/index.cgi](https://www.dss.virginia.gov/family/cc_providertrain/mat/index.cgi), click on MAT Independent Study.
- **Find a MAT or PMAT Class** - To find Medication Administration Training (MAT) and Pre-Medication Administration Training (PMAT) classes, visit the VDSS Web site at: [www.dss.virginia.gov/redirect/?83](http://www.dss.virginia.gov/redirect/?83), click on TIPS (Training Information for Provider Success) Calendar and scroll through the class listings. Be sure to contact the class sponsor for class details or registration information.
- **Find/Contact an Approved MAT Trainer** - To find/contact an *approved* Medication Administration Training (MAT) trainer, visit the VDSS Web site at: [www.dss.virginia.gov/redirect/?83](http://www.dss.virginia.gov/redirect/?83), click on (MAT) Medication Administration Training, click on Find a MAT Trainer Near You.
- **Get Answers to MAT Questions** – To get answers to questions specific to the MAT Program contact: [MAT@dss.virginia.gov](mailto:MAT@dss.virginia.gov).